

# **Minutes From a Meeting of the Concordia Council on Student Life**

**Held on February 2, 2001  
Hall 769 10:00am SGW Campus**

**Present:** Dr. D. Boisvert, Chair, Ms J. Hackett, Secretary, Ms J. Calder, Mr. R. Côté, Ms M. Drew, Ms J. Fowler, Me P. Frégeau, Mr. A. Gagnon, Dr. S.M. Graub, Dr. J. Jans, Mr. S. Nazzal, Ms J. Raso, Ms T. Ryan, Ms N. Sajnani, Mr. C. Schulz, Dr. F. Shaver, Mr. H. Zarins, Ms C. Boujaklian, Ms L. Lipscombe, Ms L. Toscano, Mr. W Curran

**Absent with Regrets:** Mr. C. Dubois, Ms J. De Cubellis, Mr. P. Aubé, Mr. T. Keefer

**Absent:** Ms M. Hussein

**Delegates:** Ms L. Subai represented Ms L. Stanbra, Ms A. Bowen represented Ms K. Hedrich

**Guests:** Ms A. Ghadban, Mr. L. Starnes

## **1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Dr. Boisvert asked that item 5.1 Student Safety Patrol be inserted after item 3. Approval of Minutes. A motion to approve the agenda as amended was made by Ms Drew and seconded by Mr. Zarins.

*The motion as amended was carried unanimously*

## **2. REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR**

Dr. Boisvert welcomed Ms Ghadban, Assistant to the Director of Advocacy & Support Services, as a visitor to the meeting.

## **3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF DECEMBER 1, 2000**

Ms Ryan asked that the minutes be amended to reflect that Me Pierre Frégeau, Acting Director of Advocacy & Support Services, was present at the December 1<sup>st</sup> meeting.

*The minutes as amended were approved*

## **5.1 STUDENT SAFETY PATROL**

Dr. Boisvert introduced Mr. Lance Starnes, one of the coordinators of the Student Safety Patrol. Mr. Starnes gave a brief overview of the service. Founded in 1994, the service provides students, staff and faculty with the right to a safe campus. The current name, Student Safety Patrol, is in the process of being changed to Concordia Walk Safe. The coordinators feel this change will better reflect the work of the patrol. There are 3 coordinators who work a total of 15 hours each week. There are

approximately 40 patrollers who volunteer their time and commit to a minimum of 3 hours a week. They work in twos offering a "safe walk" programme to the community. All patrollers have a background check as well as training sessions from a MUC Police Officer who is an ex-patroller. The approach is non-interventionist and non-violent. All patrollers are equipped with jackets, radios and flashlights. In this way, they can often act as eyes and ears for the university security. As an example of the service, Mr. Starnes explained that the patrollers tour Lucien L'allier metro after a tour of the VA Building. He admitted usage by the community has been low due to a lack of awareness and understanding of the service. One of the ways the coordinators hope to increase their visibility on campus, as well as increase the community's awareness of personal safety, is to offer workshops on those subjects. Mr. Starnes reiterated the importance of involving the patrollers in the many aspects of university life. As the Library is open 24hrs during the examination period, Mr. Curran expressed an interest to "sit down" with the safety patrol to discuss their possible involvement. Ms Drew offered assistance with the CPR training as the Health Services staff are certified. Ms Subai, Mr. Schultz and Ms Toscano all offered to advertise the safety patrol in their various services. Dr. Boisvert thanked Mr. Starnes for a most informative presentation.

#### **4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

##### **4.1 Revised Poster Policy**

A motion to accept the revised poster policy was made by Mr. Zarins and seconded by Mr. Nazzal. As Mr. Pruden was not present, Dr. Boisvert asked Ms Boujaklian, as a member of working group, to give a brief overview of the revisions.

After a lengthy discussion, CCSL asked for clarification on the following points:

- #1 & #4
  - It was unclear whether umbrella groups could also authorize posting for the associations that fall under their jurisdiction. These points need to be clearer in their intent.
- #7
  - Where are the designated Boards located?
  - Who is responsible for removing unauthorized posters or posters put up in unauthorized areas?

- #8
  - concern was expressed that more than one department handling banner space requests will cause confusion or double bookings.
  - clear guidelines be created for the banner booking policy to ensure fairness for student groups, departments and services wishing to advertise their events or services.
- #10
  - add to the first line "In these special circumstances *as referred to in point #9*, umbrella associations or University...."
- #10a
  - add a "flexibility clause" to accommodate those special posterings that may not have been able to give 7 days notice.
- #10c, 1,2,4
  - spell out what is a "reasonable amount of time". Council felt that two days after the end of the event or postering exemption would be adequate.

Dr. Boisvert asked that the working group review the policy in light of the above concerns and report back to the March CCSL meeting for final approval of the text.

#### **4.2 CSU Response to the University Draft Policy on Demonstrations**

As Mr. Keefer was not present and as Mr. Schultz was not sure if the CSU Response to the University Draft Policy on Demonstrations had been passed by the CSU Council, he asked that this item be deferred to the March CCSL meeting. Council had no objection.

#### **4.3 Student Participation in University Governance Report Update**

Dr. Boisvert drew Council's attention to the Selection Criteria document prepared by Mr. Pruden. After a lengthy discussion, the following concerns were expressed:

- Standardization of the reference letters with set criteria.
- Application process should take into consideration students who have



outside commitments or responsibilities that could affect their quantitative assessment.

- The whole application (scores, letters of reference, student course load, outside commitments/responsibilities, types of committees) of **all** the applicants be considered at the **beginning** of the process (i.e. the choice should not be made from only those applicants who, although they may have the highest quantitative assessment, are sitting on “empty” committees).
- What constitutes a “committee?”

Mr. Côté offered his assistance as he suggested that the Financial Aid Incourse Bursary selection process might provide a good model.

Council was in agreement with Dr. Boisvert's suggestion that he move things along as quickly as possible taking into consideration the concerns expressed above. He will keep Council apprised of developments.

## **5. REPORTS AND ITEMS OF INFORMATION**

Council asked that the following reports be scheduled:

|                       |                             |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| March 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Environment Health & Safety |
| April 6 <sup>th</sup> | Women's Centre              |

### **5.2 December Director's Reports**

There were no questions from Council on the reports.

## **6. STUDENT LIFE ISSUES**

Mr. Gagnon informed Council that the Arts & Science Career Fair organized by Counselling and Development and CAPS was held on the Mezzanine on February 1<sup>st</sup>. He explained that a lot of hard work and effort had gone into the fair with 16 different employers represented. Among them was the Canadian Security Intelligence Service. An incident occurred that was both upsetting and frightening. Three adults, hiding their faces, approached the CSIS table with aggressive behaviour. The table was overturned. The assailants took paper, information and student C.V.'s. Mr. Gagnon indicated that some of the individuals involved had been identified and CSIS was considering legal action. Strong concern was expressed by some of the students on Council concerning the political nature of CSIS. They did not feel it was ethically acceptable to invite them on campus and to provide a forum for them to advertise. Ms Drew was uncomfortable with the idea of dictating morality. Mr. Gagnon added that

as advance publicity advertised that CSIS would be present at the Fair there could have been other options to express concern or displeasure. Dr. Boisvert expressed concern that the rights of the students whose C.V.'s had been stolen had been violated. Council was in agreement that violence could never be condoned and was not the answer. The incident was deeply regrettable. Dr. Boisvert reiterated that CCSL is the proper forum to discuss/debate this issue or any other issue that affects student life. He hoped that in the future, issues such as these can be discussed in a productive and fair manner.

Ms Lipscombe said that the Booksellers Association would soon have a statement of intent concerning the sweatshop issue. She will advise Council as soon as it is approved.

Ms Fowler informed Council that the Art Matters Festival is going full speed ahead. It looks very exciting. The dates are March 5-18 and the program will be available soon.

## **7. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR OF THE RECREATION & ATHLETICS BOARD**

Mr. Côté confirmed that the committee would be meeting shortly. He also informed Council that there has been positive activity in the Advancement Office with respect to actively raising money. At this time, he believed there is still a student vacancy on the committee. He would report in more detail at the next CCSL meeting.

## **8. NEW BUSINESS**

### **8.1 Concordia Council on Student Life Awards Committee**

Dr. Boisvert confirmed that the Annual CCSL Awards Night was scheduled for Friday, March 30<sup>th</sup>. Nomination forms and publicity will be available shortly. The following members were appointed to the selection committee:

|                        |                   |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| Dr. Donald L. Boisvert | Chair             |
| Mr. Chris Schultz      | undergraduate rep |
| Ms Julie Fowler        | undergraduate rep |
| Ms Nisha Sajnani       | graduate rep      |
| Mr. Andre Gagnon       | staff rep         |
| Dr. Jim Jans           | faculty rep       |

The meeting to select the recipients was scheduled for Friday, March 16<sup>th</sup>.

**9. NEXT MEETING:** Friday, March 2, 2001 AD 131 Loyola Campus

#### **10. TERMINATION OF MEETING**

A motion to terminate the meeting was made by Ms Fowler and seconded by Mr. Curran.

*The Motion was carried unanimously*